## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

## Listing of Claims:

1.    (Currently Amended) A method of communicating physical human interactions over a communications network comprising:

performing an action on a first model by a first user located at a sending system, said first model representing at least a portion of a human body including at least one among a human head, a human face, a human back and an entire human body, wherein said first model incorporates one or more sensors, and wherein the action of the first user includes at least one ~~of a~~ body movement of the first user and a change in facial expression of the first user;

detecting portions or locations on the first model to which the first user applied force and an amount of force applied over time by each sensor, each sensor being configured to generate and send data when a force is detected, the generated data specifying a time the force was detected, the amount of force detected, and the body part to which force was applied;

collecting and analyzing the data generated by each sensor and determining the action intended by said first user;

<u>converting the data to markup language formatted data and</u> encoding the data into one or more messages ~~having an intermediate data format~~ for transmitting the determined action over the communications network to a receiving system;

receiving and interpreting the one or more messages by the receiving system to determine the action specified by the one or more messages; and

2

simulating the action by performing said action on a second user at the receiving system using a second model by activating one or more actuators incorporated in the second model, said second model representing at least said portion of said human body.

2-3.     (Cancelled).

4.     (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[3]] 1, further comprising the step of processing the markup language formatted data in the receiving system to identify the action.

5.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein the markup language formatted data specifies at least one actuator movement to be implemented by the second model at the receiving system and an amount of force to be applied in the at least one actuator movement.

6-7.     (Cancelled).

8.     (Original) The method of claim 1, said simulating step further comprising the step of translating the action into instructions for activating at least one actuator; and activating the at least one actuator in accordance with the instructions.

9.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting physical contact of the second model by a second user, wherein said second model incorporates one or more sensors;

generating data from said sensors specifying the physical contact of the second model;

determining at least one action intended by the second user indicated by the generated data;

3

transmitting the determined action over a communications network to the sending system; and

simulating the action by performing said action on the first user at the sending system using the first model, wherein said first model incorporates one or more actuators.

10-22. (Cancelled).

23.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said generated data specifies a time when a force was detected, the amount of said force, and a location on said human body to which said force was applied.

24.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said action intended by said first user includes at least one among an embrace, a slap on the back, and a pat on the back.

25-27. (Cancelled).

28.     (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a graphical user interface, within said graphical user interface said first user can select human actions or processing tasks, wherein said human actions include at least one among "touch the face", "touch arm", and "embrace" and said processing tasks include at least one of "opening an audio channel" and "opening a video channel".

29-30. (Cancelled).

31.     (New) A system for communicating physical human interactions over a communications network comprising:

a first model upon which an action is performed by a first user located at a sending system, the first model representing a portion of a human body representing at least one among a human head, a human face, a human back and an entire human body;

at least one sensor incorporated in the first model and configured to detect physical movement of the first user, wherein the physical movement of the first user includes at least one body movement of the first user and a change in facial expression of the first user, wherein portions or locations on the first model to which the first user applied force and an amount of force applied over time is detected by each sensor, each sensor being configured to generate and send data when a force is detected, the generated data specifying a time the force was detected, the amount of force detected, and the body part to which force was applied;

means for collecting and analyzing the data generated by each sensor and determining the action intended by the first user;

means for converting the data to markup language formatted data and encoding the data into one or more messages for transmitting the determined action over the communications network to a receiving system;

means for receiving and interpreting the one or more messages by the receiving system to determine the action specified by the one or more messages; and

a second model incorporating at least one receiving actuator configured to simulate the action to a second user at a receiving location, the second model representing at least the portion of the human body.


32.    (New) A computer readable storage medium, having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

performing an action on a first model by a first user located at a sending system, said first model representing at least a portion of a human body including at least one among a human head, a human face, a human back and an entire human body, wherein

5

said first model incorporates one or more sensors, and wherein the action of the first user includes at least one body movement of the first user and a change in facial expression of the first user;

detecting portions or locations on the first model to which the first user applied force and an amount of force applied over time by each sensor, each sensor being configured to generate and send data when a force is detected, the generated data specifying a time the force was detected, the amount of force detected, and the body part to which force was applied;

collecting and analyzing the data generated by each sensor and determining the action intended by said first user;

converting the data to markup language formatted data and encoding the data into one or more messages for transmitting the determined action over a communications network to a receiving system;

receiving and interpreting the one or more messages by the receiving system to determine the action specified by the one or more messages; and

simulating the action by performing said action on a second user at the receiving system using a second model by activating one or more actuators incorporated in the second model, said second model representing at least said portion of said human body.